

Action Minutes
WATER POLICY TASK FORCE
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

November 10, 2005

10:00 a.m.

Location of Meeting: Inland Empire Utilities Agency
6075 Kimball Avenue, Chino, CA 91710

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After agenda item 4.3 was finished the minutes of the April 14, 2005, June 9, 2005 and September 8, 2005 meetings were approved without objection.

4.0 PRESENTATION ITEM FOR THE TASK FORCE

4.1 A Dialogue with Jerry Secundy around the “Erase the Waste” Initiative by the State Water Resources Control Board

Jerry Secundy, a recently appointed member of the State Water Resources Control Board, introduced the “Erase the Waste”, an initiative sponsored by the Board to combat the problem of stormwater pollution in Los Angeles County and improve the environment of the region's coastal and inland communities. This initiative recognizes three dimensions required for program success: public education, program funding and regulation.

Following that introduction, Mr. Secundy invited the Task Force to engage in some dialogue that would help him understand some of the concerns of the Task Force and familiarize the Task Force with some of his views and thinking on these and other issues. The discussion that followed included comments on the LA River Metals TMDL and other TMDL experience in the region, the role of cost-benefit analysis in setting water quality policy and plans, the need for comprehensive planning when investing in capital projects. Task Force members expressed appreciation for Mr. Secundy's interest in local opinions and issues and his willingness to consider multiple benefits of public action when water quality goals are pursued. Instead of acting on the proposed resolution, there was agreement that staff would return to the Task Force with an update on the potential for integrating the State Board's “Erase the Waste” program with other public education programs being operated by local public entities, achieving better cost-efficiencies and outreach effectiveness.

4.2 The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA): A Model Facility for Energy Conservation and Water Quality Management

The Task Force was briefed on the planning concepts that went into the development and construction of the new IEUA facilities. The result of these efforts was a campus that received a Platinum ranking by the U.S. Green Building Council as a “Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design” (LEED) development. This distinction is enjoyed by very few facilities in the country. The LEED designation is all the more noteworthy because of the cost-effectiveness of the project, a measure of the time required for recovery of all investments in energy and water resources efficiencies. These investments have made it possible for all stormwater flows to be retained on the IEUA property, allowing for natural treatment of the water and its infiltration for later reuse. This retention capability eliminates the kind of polluted runoff that contributes to water impairments in urban watersheds. On the energy side, investments in energy efficiencies will allow IEUA to go off of the power grid, even though agency operations have substantial electrical requirements. Following the presentation, the Task Force was given a walking tour to observe key features on the campus: pervious parking lot concrete, water retention and infiltration areas, and the use of skylights for interior illumination.

4.3 The Ahwahnee Water Principles for Resource Efficient Land Use

Hon. Susan Longville, San Bernardino Councilmember and Task Force member, briefed the Task Force on the recently adopted Ahwahnee Water Principles for Resource Efficient Land Use, an initiative of the Local Government Commission. Ms. Longville noted that these Principles affirm a linkage between water quality, water supply and land use and emphasize the roles that land use policy and implementation play in managing our vital natural resources. The Task Force unanimously agreed to a motion urging the Energy and Environment Committee to recommend that the Regional Council adopt Resolution 06-469-2, a resolution supporting the Principles and their use in local and regional planning. Martha Davis indicated that IEUA would be willing to host a SCAG workshop to further explore ways that local governments can use the Principles in planning and development, using IEUA’s facilities as a model for what is possible.

5.0 CHAIR’S REPORT

There was no report.

6.0 STAFF REPORT

There was no report.

7.0 TASK FORCE INFORMATION SHARING

There was no information sharing.

8.0 COMMENT PERIOD

There were no other comments.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

ATTENDANCE SUMMARY:

Elected Members: Dennis Washburn (Chair), Harry Baldwin, Stan Carroll, Margaret Clark, Larry Forester, Keith Hanks, Susan Longville, Shenna Moqet, Lori Van Arsdale, Frank Zerunyan.

Liaison Members: Bo Cutter, Suzanne Dallman, Martha Davis, Gerald Greene, Dennis LaMoreaux, Bill Wright.

Minutes prepared and approved by Daniel E. Griset, Sr. Regional Planner and Staff to the Task Force